

## **RISE Delaware™ Update: The New SEBC!**

Great, great news! William Oberle and Paul Baumbach were today both appointed to the SEBC.

If you remember, legislation enacted into law last year to repair the broken SEBC, sponsored by (then Rep.) Paul Baumbach and passed unanimously by the General Assembly, gave the General Assembly two new appointees to the SEBC. The President Pro Tem of the Senate, Sen. David Sokola, earlier this month appointed Karen Peterson. The Speaker of the House, Rep. Melissa Minor-Brown, today appointed Bill Oberle. She also appointed Paul Baumbach to complete the term of Thomas Brackin, Exec. Director of the Delaware State Troopers Assoc., through February 2026.

We could not ask for better appointments. All three are highly respected, well-spoken and persuasive, and know how to get things done. From years of attention to the issues facing the SEBC, they have in-depth knowledge of State healthcare benefits and the challenges the SEBC will face. What they do not know yet, they will be quick to learn. Willis Towers Watson will not be able to pull the wool over their eyes!! We consider this a dream team of friends of RISE Delaware!

There is one other union appointment to be made — the replacement for Shaun O'Brien, whose term on behalf of AFSCME expires next month. If you remember, Shaun was instrumental in getting the SEBC (before Paul's legislation had become a reality) to follow the recommendations of the RHBAS to ditch Medicare Advantage in the new healthcare contract. So, we hope that AFSCME will put on another great representative to join the dream team!

What a difference the last year has made as far as the State's process for handling its employee and retiree healthcare and other benefits. First, the legislature established the RHBAS, under (then Lt. Gov) Bethany Hall-Long, Sen. Bryan Townsend and Paul Baumbach. What they accomplished was nothing short of incredible. And then, because of the legislation coming out of the RHBAS work and pushed by Paul, we now have a totally new and better SEBC going into the future. It is sometimes hard to believe how well this all played out.

All the best,  
Elisa Diller, President, RISE Delaware  
Mary Graham, Vice President, RISE Delaware

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**RISE Delaware: Retirees Investing in Social Equity Delaware**

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